

Minutes
Public Service And Trust Commission
Pro Bono Committee
Programs Subcommittee
April 7, 2011
11:00 AM

Teleconference
225 Spring Street, 2nd Floor, Room 206
Wethersfield, CT

The second meeting of the Public Service and Trust Commission Pro Bono Committee Programs Subcommittee was held by teleconference at 225 Spring Street, 2nd floor, Room 206, Wethersfield, CT at 11:00 a.m. on April 7, 2011

Members participating via telephone: Attorney Steve Eppler-Epstein (chair), Attorney Alfred Casella, Attorney Jan Chiaretto, and Attorney Ian Lodovice.

Guest invited to provide prospective from legal aid entities: Attorney Pat Kaplan

The meeting was called to order by Attorney Eppler-Epstein at 11:03 a.m.

1. **Welcome** - Attorney Eppler-Epstein.
2. **Approval of March 21, 2011 minutes** – Upon motion and second, the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. **Review of discussion at March 23, 2011 Pro Bono Committee Meeting** – Discussion began with the question as to whether the larger committee will define attorneys who are paid by the Court to represent a party as “pro bono”, The members agreed that attorneys working in this capacity would not be included in the definition of “pro bono”.

The committee restated the goals of the event in September:

1. to broaden the awareness of existing pro bono programs,
2. to improve infrastructure for those programs, and
3. to create new pro bono structures and opportunities.

4. **Continued development of broad list of pro bono projects** – Attorney Eppler-Epstein asked the members to review the current list of programs provided and volunteered to send a copy to the Veteran's Association for input.
5. **Begin identification of short list of program presentations** - Discussion continued about the comprehensiveness of the list, which opportunities should be included on the program's agenda and what other opportunities can be developed. It was agreed that Statewide Legal Services should make a presentation. Discussion continued as to the type of presentation for the program. Should there be a panel presentation or a series of speakers? It was suggested that a presentation by a retired attorney working in-house at a legal services office should be included in the program. The members discussed various examples of a pro bono project partnering with a private law firm, the evening clinic models in place throughout the state and the Judicial Branch's court programs as possible additions to the September presentation as well. Discussion continued about what type of presentation would be valuable to the large corporations and law firms that the committee is hoping to reach and various subcommittee members agreed to seek feedback from their offices on this issue.
6. **Discussion of written materials for/prior to program** - The members discussed the creation of a template where each non-profit agency can insert information about their program appropriately and the need to make this document available electronically in advance of the September event.
7. **Next meeting-** Thursday, May 5th at 11:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.